

Complete and Simple Subjects and Predicates

2c. The main word or word group that tells whom or what the sentence is about is called the **simple subject**.

2d. The **simple predicate**, or **verb**, is the main word or word group that tells something about the subject.

The **complete subject** consists of the simple subject and any words, phrases, or clauses that modify the simple subject. The **complete predicate** consists of a verb and all the words that describe the verb and complete its meaning.

EXERCISE In each of the following sentences, underline the complete subject once and the complete predicate twice. Then, circle each simple subject and verb.

Example 1. Traditional Chinese painting is characterized by meticulous brush strokes.

- Among the most famous Chinese artists is Chang Dai-chien.
- I have seen several of the paintings by Chang Dai-chien.
- Many art experts consider Chang a genius.
- Dozens of Chang's paintings are in an exhibit at the museum.
- Across the marble floor walked our guide.
- The guide pointed to the collection of paintings.
- She directed our attention to an unusual painting.
- On the bushy branches of a pine tree sits the artist.
- Chang exhibited one hundred paintings at his first show in 1926.
- Beside one painting hangs a gorgeous fan.
- My sister had read the description of *Musical Performance*.
- A digital picture of this painting appears on the Internet.
- In the next gallery was artwork by Zhu Qizhan.
- At the age of ninety, he accepted an invitation to lecture in the United States.
- Did the group see all of his paintings with flowers and still lifes?
- Included among the images is a picture of grapes.
- A colorful landscape painting hangs nearby.
- His landscapes are renowned for their technical achievement.
- The mountains in this painting are beautiful.
- Zhu Qizhan used impressionist techniques in his work.